



PAID

Geo. Amos A Phelps
Boston
Mass

Single.

Hope you will ~~not~~ think from what I have
written that we have used any uncluhand measures to secure
a call for you - It is not the case - We have been quiet - a mere
"looker on in Venice" - watching the current - following its course
and when the proper time comes mean to act open - resolute
decided and with christian like frankness. In a week or two
something will be done - what that something will be
I can hardly tell. - It may be that there may be a strenuous
opposition to you - If so you shall know it. - I would not for
the world advise you to accept the mere majority call of
our church - It must be a nearly unanimous call that can
induce me to ~~wrote~~^{write} you personally to come. - for I know
that you have no disposition to associate with a divided church
and that there are thousands of churches for you to settle
in place elsewhere. - I am fearful that there will be a severe
struggle in our church - It is a struggle however which every church
in our land has got to encounter. - It will be struggle between
wholly prejudice and truth - between the spirit of love - and the
dark spirit of slavery - In this contest it is not hard to tell
who will be triumphant. -

I will write you more in a few days.
I regret exceedingly your wife's continued indisposition. - My
wife wishes to be remembered affectionately to her & to you -
Self -

Love & Respect Yours Truly

J. P. Brown

we have had - and the different kinds of doctrines we have ^{had} held forth from the most ultra of Hopkinsianism to the most extreme of Taylorism. Still all these men did not appear to suit even the men who brought them forward - and the consequence is that after to morrow we have no man engaged to minister to us - and no one to supply our pulpit - The opposition appear to have wornied themselves out and to be in a state of complete exhaustion. - This was what I expected. - I knew they could not succeed in fastening a man upon the Church who was not an abolitionist, and I thought after they had exerted themselves in vain - they might be willing to lend a listening ear to our proposal to give you an invitation to settle with us.

I have taken the liberty to show your letter to me to Mr Andrews - a firm abolitionist and a good friend of yours. You will hear from us again soon. Dea Gady has returned. I can hardly tell you what will be the result of our operations - I know that a large majority - both in the church and Society are anxious to have you for our pastor - but whether they may think it would be best to let a few men rule us a little longer or not I can't tell. Yesterday one of our good Deacons - who opposes you on account of your abolitionism told me, that he had heard, that there was a Rev Mr Moore late of Natick - now residing in Methuen at Mr Ficks - he was anxious to hear him - I could not help smiling to think how much there is in a name - You have the name of being a fanatic - and this must be a reason to destroy you - whilst another man equally as much a fanatic as yourself - but who has not been as public in his avowal of his fanaticism - is cracked up as a smart fellow - and the same men who would denounce you are anxious to hear him

J. E. Brown.
Providence April 28. 1838.



Dear Brother Phelps

41
Your favor was duly recd. I should have written
you a long time ago - but I had postponed it so long that I felt
rather ashamed to write - besides I expected to have been down
to Boston long ere this and could then have said in person a
great deal more than I am capable of writing. - However let
this pass and I'll now to business,

Soon after our last correspondence our
main stay Dea Gentry left Prov for the west - Several others of
our true abolitionists either removed from the church ~~and~~ the place
and there appeared to be rather an increase of strength in the
church on the side of our anti abolition brethren. - It was deem-
ed best by Mr Andrews & several others of us to say nothing
respecting giving you a call in church meeting until we had
put out our feelers to see which way the current runs,
Doct Mason - Healy - Taylor & several other members, who
exert quite an influence in the church were opposed
to you solely & singly on account of your abolitionism
They were terribly fearful that you had become so impreg-
nated with the very essence of abolitionism - that you would
not be able to either read - preach or pray or talk, or
expound - or exhort - or converse - or lecture - or even open
your lips without alluding to Anti Slavery. Poor Men! whether
it best to let them apparently have their own way & see
if they could get a Minister who would suit. - According-
ly they have tried - and tried hard I assure you. - Wants
be hard work for me to enumerate the different men they
have brought into ~~the~~ pulpit. - the different kinds of sermons,